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# NORTHEAST NEWS

**Americanisms**



"The strength of this country isn't in buildings of brick and steel. It's in the hearts of those who have sworn to fight for its freedom."  
— Captain America

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VOL. 45, NO. 46 TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021 HOUSTON, TEXAS www.nenewsroom.com

## Former Superintendent Nadine Kujawa passes away November 8

ALDINE – Mrs. Nadine Kujawa, who was the first-ever female superintendent in the history of Aldine ISD, has passed away. Mrs. Kujawa, 80, passed away on Monday, Nov. 8.

Mrs. Kujawa devoted 42 years to Aldine ISD and served in a number of roles. She was a graduate of Aldine High School (the Class of 1959) and was the first Aldine ISD graduate to serve as superintendent.

"Our hearts go out to the Kujawa family with the passing of a true legend," said Aldine ISD Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney. "Mrs. Kujawa was a trailblazer for so many of us in education. She was well-respected across the state and committed her entire professional career to the students and staff of Aldine ISD. She was a proud graduate of Aldine High School. Our thoughts and prayers go out to her husband Harry and her daughters Christine and Karen, her grandchildren and her extended family."



**NADINE KUJAWA, FORMER ALDINE ISD SUPERINTENDENT**

Mrs. Kujawa succeeded Superintendent M.B. "Sonny" Donaldson in 2001 and served as the district's leader until her retirement in May of 2007.

She began her teaching career in AISD in 1962 as a second-grade teacher at Oleson Elementary School. In 1970, Mrs. Kujawa was named principal of Raymond Elementary School, where she served until 1975 before moving to Magrill Elementary School to serve as that school's principal. In 1977, she was named principal at Carmichael Elementary School. In 1978, she moved to AISD Central Office where she was assigned to the personnel office (today Human Resources). In 1986, she was

*Continued. See Kujawa Passes, Page 2*

## W. Leo Daniels Tower to receive major rehabilitation

Houston to fund \$10 million of \$27 million Jensen revitalization

HOUSTON – Mayor Sylvester Turner and City Council on October 6, 2021 have approved \$10 million to rehabilitate W. Leo Daniels Tower. Built at 8826 Harrell Street more than 40 years ago, this community of 100 apartment homes serves very low- and extremely low-income Houstonians who are elderly and/or disabled. This rehabilitation, completed through the City of Houston's Harvey Multifamily Program, will bring investment to an asset in disrepair and establish resilient, high-quality housing where it is much needed, helping people stay in their community.

"The existing housing units are old and located in an area where affordable housing is desperately needed," said Mayor Sylvester Turner. "We recognized that need as a City and are glad to assist, because it will require much more resources than a typical rehabilitation. The City supports these communities and the resulting benefit of improved housing for vulnerable residents. Rehabilitating older properties instead of demolishing and creating new developments is a wonderful way for neighborhoods to keep their



W. Leo Daniels Tower, named for a local pastor, was built over 40 years ago, and houses 100 apartments serving low rent elderly or disabled persons.

character and local history."

The rehabilitated complex will provide studio- and one-bedroom apartments. With support from a program through the US Department of Housing and Urban Development, residents will pay no more than 30% of their income in rent. The complex is adjacent to a church, which will offer supportive services, programming, hot meals, and transportation for residents.

The Harvey Multifamily

Program expands and preserves Houston's supply of affordable rental homes that will be safe from future storms with manageable rental rates for low- and moderate-income renters. The program, which began accepting applications for developments in early 2019, is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and overseen by the Texas General Land Office.

The total cost of rehabilitation for W. Leo

Daniels Tower is approximately \$27 million. Most of the other funding is provided through tax credits and private lenders.

For additional information on the developments funded through Houston's Harvey Multifamily Program, please see [recovery.houston.tx.gov/multifamily](http://recovery.houston.tx.gov/multifamily).

The City of Houston Housing and Community Development (HCDD)

*Continued. See Daniels Tower, Page 2*

**KEENEY'S KORNER**  
By **MIKE KEENEY**

## Texans return from bye week with trip to Nashville: Michigan State looks to pull off upset against Ohio State

After a week off, the Texans return to action when they visit the AFC South leading Tennessee Titans on Sunday.

This could be another long day for Texans fans as David Culley's team will be riding an eight-game losing streak when it takes on a Titans team that continues to roll, despite losing star running back Derrick Henry to a season-ending foot injury.

To say the Texans are a mess would be an understatement. Two weeks ago in their 17-9 loss at Miami, the Houston defense produced four turnovers, which should have been good enough to

pull off the win, but Texans' QB Tyrod Taylor threw three picks to squelch any shot at a victory.

Houston will face a resilient Titans team that has not only overcome Henry's injury, but also a host of others. Head coach Mike Vrabel has to give serious consideration as the NFL's Coach of the Year. Two weeks ago, the Titans picked up a huge road win when they shocked the Los Angeles Rams en route to a 28-16 victory.

While the Texans visit Nashville, the Indianapolis

*Continued. See Keeney's Korner, page 4*

## Aldine ISD dedicates Education Center in Memory of Kenneth Knippel

For 39 years, Ken Knippel devoted himself to the students and staff of Aldine ISD. On Sunday, Nov. 7, the district rewarded his loyalty and dedication to AISD by officially dedicating the Kenneth R. Knippel Education Center in his honor.

Mr. Knippel's family, friends and colleagues gathered for the dedication ceremony.

For 13 years, Mr. Knippel served as the Assistant Superintendent of Administration and one of his goals was to have the district build a new alternative education facility. That dream became a reality in 2015 when Aldine voters overwhelmingly passed a \$798 million bond referendum. Part of the bond package included building the new Aldine Education Center (AEC). Mr. Knippel saw his dream become a reality when AEC opened in August of 2018.

Unfortunately, Mr. Knippel passed away in



Susan Knippel, center, second row, and members of her family pose with members of the Aldine ISD Board of Trustees, Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney and former superintendents M.B. "Sonny" Donaldson and Dr. Wanda Bamberg, around the photo of former Assistant Superintendent of Administration Ken Knippel. On Sunday, Nov. 7, Aldine ISD officially dedicated the Kenneth R. Knippel Education Center in Mr. Knippel's honor.

January of 2020. Aldine ISD's Board of Trustees knew how much the facility meant to him and voted to re-name AEC the Kenneth R. Knippel Education

Center in his honor.

The dedication ceremony was originally scheduled for April of 2020, but due to the COVID 19 pandemic, it was rescheduled

for Sunday, Nov. 7.

Mr. Knippel's wife Susan thanked the Board for re-naming AEC after Mr. *Continued. See Knippel Ed Center, Page 2*

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★ OPINION PAGE ★

# Nadine Kujawa passes away,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

named the district's Executive Director of Personnel, a post she held until 1990 when she was named Assistant Superintendent of Personnel. In 1996, Mrs. Kujawa was named Deputy Superintendent of Human Resources and Instruction. In July of 1999, Mrs. Kujawa's title was changed to Deputy Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction. In June of 2001, Mrs. Kujawa assumed the duties of Superintendent of Schools for Aldine ISD.

In May of 2006, she was named the Region 4 Superintendent of the Year and was named one of five finalists for the prestigious Texas Superintendent of the Year Award.

Mrs. Kujawa earned her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Sam Houston State University in 1962 and her master's degree in administration and supervision from the University of Houston in 1967.

Former Superintendent M.B. "Sonny" Donaldson and Mrs. Kujawa worked closely together during his tenure as superintendent from 1986 until 2001. He said she was the driving factor in Aldine earning a "Recognized Rating" from the Texas Education Agency for seven consecutive years (1996-2003).

"She was a great teammate. I was shocked to hear the news," Mr. Donaldson said. "She loved Aldine. She was an Aldine girl. She was a very unselfish person, always focusing on what was best for kids. I felt like she was the perfect person to lead us to our academic success."

Mr. Donaldson added Mrs. Kujawa relished her role in creating a curriculum that addressed students at every grade level.

"She put her heart into the curriculum," he said. "She always gave credit to those who worked around her. She developed the curriculum on what students needed to know at each grade level. She was a master at that. She was an inspiration to others."

Mr. Donaldson said Mrs. Kujawa inspired those around her with her 'can do' attitude.

"She was a go get 'em type of person," Mr. Donaldson said. "Once she set her mind on something, we did it. I never saw her angry and she never spoke an ill word about anyone. She was always moving forward."

Former Superintendent Dr. Wanda Bamberg and Mrs. Kujawa worked closely together on curriculum for many years. Dr. Bamberg considered Mrs. Kujawa a mentor and close friend. She too was saddened by the news of her passing.

"Nadine was a tremendous leader who was loved by all," she said. "She held people accountable with support and respect. Many district employees came in contact with her over the years and they all share stories about how she helped them and gave them opportunities."

Aldine ISD Trustee Dr. Viola M. Garcia, the longest tenured member of the Board, said Mrs. Kujawa left a lasting legacy in Aldine ISD.

"When I think of the words integrity and compassion, I think of Nadine Kujawa," Dr. Garcia said. "She was deeply dedicated to Aldine ISD as a student, graduate, teacher, administrator and in her leading role as superintendent of schools. Her devotion to Aldine students, staff and the community shone throughout her career. She is a remarkable example of benevolent and devoted leadership but also the model of a strong woman who led Aldine during a time dominated by male school leaders."

"Aldine ISD received the Broad Prize for Urban Education in 2009 and was a finalist for the award in 2004, 2005 and 2008. The district received a Magna Award in 1999 from the American School Board Journal for its "Benchmark Targets for Academic Achievement" program. Nadine Kujawa's contributions to these achievements are unquestionable," Dr. Garcia said.

And Dr. Garcia added Mrs. Kujawa led by example.

"Her examples of caring, compassion and strength of character live as an inspiration to all of us," she said. "She may not be defined by an extraordinary resume, as much as she is defined by the quality of her character and the deep relationships she built, nurtured and promoted. The guidance, which emanated from her kindness, made those who knew her want to be and do our best. Many of us, co-workers, employees, parents and former students can testify to her enduring contributions and to the exceptional role model she was. Nadine's dedication and humanity shone through in everything she did. Her commitment to her work, to her family, to her friends and especially to those she served will be greatly missed."

Fellow Trustee Rose Avalos also worked under Mrs. Kujawa when she served as principal of MacArthur High School.

"Mrs. Kujawa was a wonderful lady and a huge role model and mentor to me," Ms. Avalos said. "She never hesitated to tell you what was best even when you didn't want to hear it and she could do it with such calmness. She transformed the instructional program in Aldine that led to higher performance of our students so much that school districts in Texas took notice of us. My heart is broken and I will dearly miss her. The respect people had for her is unmatched."

In addition to leading the school district, Mrs. Kujawa was active in the community. She served on the Board of Directors of the Greenspoint YMCA and was a Board Member of the Boy Scouts of America. She also served as a member of the Advisory Board of the Rodeo Institute of Texas Excellence and she served as President of the Executive Board of the Texas State Academic Decathlon. Mrs. Kujawa was also a member of the Texas Association of School Boards (TASB), the Texas Association of School Administrators and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development. She also served as President, Vice-President and Secretary/Treasurer of the Texas Association of School Personnel Administrators.

In February of 2008, the Aldine ISD Board of Trustees honored her for her 42 years of service to the district by naming the education center on Fallbrook Drive after her. The Nadine Kujawa Education Center consists of Kujawa Primary School and Kujawa Elementary School. Both campuses opened in 2008.



# Knippel Education Center,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Knippel.

"I'd like to humbly thank the Aldine Board of Trustees for voting to rename this valuable education center as a tribute to Ken's great love for Aldine ISD," Mrs. Knippel said. "I'd like to thank the past and present board members, the Executive Leadership Team, principals, teachers, friends and family for being here today."

Mrs. Knippel said Ken cherished working with Aldine's students.

"The students of Aldine, or 'kids,' were Ken's favorite part of every job. He always wanted to be where they were. He liked being in the commons, in the hallways during class change, in the cafeteria, on the bus ramp and at after school events. He said you can learn a lot about kids by knowing who their friends are, watching how they interact with others, and observing what they eat for lunch."

Mr. Knippel graduated from Texas Tech University with a bachelor's degree in Physical Education with a Minor in History. He graduated Cum Laude.

In the summer of 1980, he interviewed with then AISD Athletic Director M.B. "Sonny" Donaldson (who later became Superintendent of Schools) and with Teague Middle School Principal Sue Wooten. He accepted a job as a coach and History teacher at Teague Middle School and thus began a 39-year association and devotion to Aldine ISD.

During his 39 years with Aldine, Ken served as a teacher, a coach, as an assistant principal and principal of three campuses (Parker Intermediate School, Nimitz Ninth Grade School and Nimitz High School). He was the first-ever principal at Parker and Nimitz Ninth. In 2006, he was named Assistant Superintendent of Administration, a position he held for 13 years. Mrs. Knippel added Mr. Knippel's mentors were Mr. Donaldson, Mrs. Wooten, former Superintendents Nadine Kujawa, Dr. Wanda Bamberg, and present Superintendent Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney. Others who served as his mentors were Wilbert Johnson, Barbara Glass, and Vernon Lewis.

While he enjoyed all of his roles, Mrs. Knippel said Ken cherished his time as a principal. "Ken had many important and challenging jobs but his most favorite and his hardest jobs were being a building principal," she said. "Ken believed a building principal was the unwavering pillar, the corner stone and foundation of the school's environment and culture."

That's why seeing the district build a new site for its alternative education center was so important to him, Mrs. Knippel said. "Ken believed in the theory that we are all born innately good," she said. "It is circumstances and consequences from decisions we make that lead us in the wrong direction. He wanted all kids to be able to earn their diploma and he never wanted to give up on anyone. His mantra was always do what's best for the kid. Sometimes to keep all kids safe, it was best to remove a student from their home campus for placement at the alternative center. The worry was the temporary buildings at the Alternative Placement Center had a dreary punitive atmosphere. For a long time, Ken tried to find a more positive environment for the kids and the staff at the Alternative Center."

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For Continuation of Story, please see [www.AldineISD.org](http://www.AldineISD.org)

# STATE CAPITAL HIGHLIGHTS

By Gary Borders



# State lost 616,000 jobs during the Pandemic

The annual cash report from the state comptroller outlines the economic damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. From August 2019 to August 2020, the state's economy lost 616,600 non-farm jobs, largely from the economic aftershocks of the pandemic and a drop in energy prices. However, sales tax collections, a major part of the state's revenue, increased two-tenths of a percent in 2020 because of increases in retail spending that offset declines in oil and gas-related sectors.

Sales tax collections comprise nearly 60% of the state's total revenues, according to the comptroller's office.

## PREVENTING WILDFIRES DURING HUNTING SEASON

Dry weather and increasing drought conditions have prompted Texas A&M Forest Service officials to urge Texans to be mindful of activities that may cause a wildfire during the major hunting seasons now underway. "Drought or freeze-dried grasses provide a very receptive medium for an accidental wildfire ignition and dead grass will readily ignite under a wide range of weather conditions," said Brad Smith of the forest service. "An additional factor that will contribute to the difficulty of extinguishing a fire burning in dead grass this year is that there is a lot of grass on the landscape due to above-normal rainfall observed over much of the state during this year's growing season."

Nine out of 10 wildfires are caused by humans. The TFS reports that nearly two-thirds of wildfires that occur during hunting season are caused by debris burning and equipment use, such as parking in dry grass and dragging trailer chains.



## SNAP BENEFITS AGAIN EXTENDED

Once again, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is allowing the state to extend the maximum allowable amount of emergency food benefits in November. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program is providing more than \$310 million to the state, allowing all SNAP households to receive a minimum of \$95 in emergency allotments in addition to their regular amount.

SNAP is administered in Texas by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission. Texans in need of such benefits, including SNAP and Medicaid, can apply at Your Texas Benefits.com.

## COMMUNITY COLLEGES RECEIVE STATE GRANTS

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board recently awarded \$26 million in grants to 46 community colleges across Texas to support students affected by COVID-19. The grants, a result of a bill passed during the legislative session, can be used to create or expand workforce training programs in occupational areas with high demand.

"The COVID-19 pandemic clearly demonstrated how quickly specific jobs and necessary skills can change. We need to get our

Texas students and displaced workers onto a fast track to lasting careers that equip them for greater economic mobility," said Harrison Keller, higher education commissioner.

More than 80% of the state's qualified two-year institutions received funding.

## STATE GETS 1.3 MILLION PEDIATRIC DOSES OF VACCINE

The state is receiving more than 1.3 million doses of Pfizer's pediatric vaccine this week, which is being shipped to more than 900 providers across the state. The doses, which come in a different formulation than the vaccine approved for adults, are intended for children between the ages of 5 and 11. The federal Food and Drug Administration recently approved the emergency use of the pediatric vaccine.

New cases of COVID-19 continue to drop statewide, with 22,023 reported by the Coronavirus Resource Center at Johns Hopkins University in the past week. New deaths stood at 775, also a marked decrease.

The number of lab-confirmed COVID-19 hospitalizations dropped to 2,949, down by more than half from a month ago, according to the Texas Department of State Health Services. Meanwhile, 15.54 million Texans are fully vaccinated, which is 53.3% of the state's population. In addition, 1.76 million Texans have received an additional dose of the vaccine.

Gary Borders is a veteran award-winning Texas journalist. He published a number of community newspapers in Texas during a 30-year span, including in Longview, Fort Stockton, Nacogdoches and Cedar Park. Email: [gborders@texaspress.com](mailto:gborders@texaspress.com).

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# Daniel Tower,

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

makes long-term investments to improve the lives of Houston residents by creating opportunities for every Houstonian to have a home they can afford in a community where they can thrive. Our department will invest approximately \$450 million in federal, state, and local funds this fiscal year to construct and maintain affordable homes, reduce barriers to homeownership, support the work of social service providers, build public amenities, and facilitate disaster recovery efforts. Learn more about programs and resources for Houstonians at [www.houstontx.gov/housing](http://www.houstontx.gov/housing).



SCHOOL NEWS PAGE

Message from the Superintendent,  
November 9, 2021

Dear Aldine Community,

As we continue our month of gratitude, I am thrilled to say I am grateful that COVID vaccinations are now available for our youngest learners, elementary and middle school students. For vaccination providers in our area, please see the English and Spanish flyers from Region 4 ESC. We are working with partners to create opportunities right here in our community specifically for our families. As a reminder, all staff members are eligible for a vaccination incentive! Those who submit proof of vaccination by Friday, November 19, will receive their incentive on Friday, December 10.

While we welcome the vaccines now available to our younger students to include kids ages 5 and up, please do not forget about the vital vaccines that are available right now for your children to help prevent countless illnesses — measles, mumps, whooping cough. Let's prevent the needless suffering of our children and of other vulnerable children who could catch these contagious diseases. Click here for information about annual required immunizations for school-age children.

With the cooler weather approaching, I would like to remind all of you of the 3 Ws of protecting yourself against COVID-19 (and other infectious diseases):

- Wear a mask
- Wash your hands
- Watch your distance

I also encourage you to take advantage of the drive-thru rapid COVID-19 testing available for all Aldine ISD students and staff at the M.B. Sonny Donaldson Child Nutrition Services Center. Please note: online registration is required.

It was great to see so many families attend our Choice Schools Festival on November 6. It was a great opportunity to speak with staff and students about all of our Choice School options. Each of the Choice Schools will be hosting a Showcase Event giving families an opportunity to visit the campuses. The first Showcase Event is Tuesday, November 9. Click here for details. Please be aware that Choice Schools Application for the 2022-2023 school year is now available. The deadline to apply is December 9, with the First Lottery taking place on December 15.

In an effort to ensure all families, including families whose children are receiving bilingual and English as a second language (ESL) services, are empowered and better able to help their young learners thrive, our Multilingual Department is offering a Parent Leadership Academy. Meeting once a month between November and April, families will "graduate" with the skills they need to assist their kids and be better able to communicate with teachers. The first session is Wednesday, November 17. Click here for details and to register.

On Sunday, we honored Kenneth 'Ken' R. Knippel posthumously when we officially dedicated the Knippel Education Center. The longtime educator and district leader served Aldine ISD for 39 years before passing away in January 2020. I encourage you to read the full story to learn more about Mr. Knippel and the center named after him.

With the days shortening and the cold weather settling in, it can become difficult to find inspiration in the day-to-day. Our Family and Community Engagement (FACE) team members have the solution! On Saturday, November 13, FACE will host its third virtual event of the Be Inspired series. The English session will be held from 9:00 – 10:00 a.m., and the Spanish version from 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. This inspirational event allows the audience to hear motivational stories from various stakeholders, including Precinct 2 Commissioner Adrian Garcia. I hope each of you will take the time to listen in and find encouragement in these heartwarming stories.

I want to take a moment to give a shout-out to our school psychologists during School Psychology Awareness Week. Students learn best when they are healthy both physically and emotionally. They collaborate with educators, parents, and other professionals to create safe, healthy, and supportive learning environments that strengthen connections between home, school, and the community for all students. Thank your school psychologist and use the hashtag #AldineSchoolPsychWeek.

Let's finish the year stronger than ever — remembering there is room for everyone's contributions here.

With Aldine Pride,  
Dr. LaTonya M. Goffney  
Superintendent



UPCOMING EVENTS

November: Early Head Start Program — Open enrollment for the Early Head Start program is at the Child Development Center. The program serves children from six weeks to three years of age and focuses on building their school-ready skills. No deadline to apply, but seats are limited. Click here for details.

November: The district is undergoing an audit focused on equity as it continues to evaluate how best to serve every student. Click here to learn more about the five-minute phone interview.

November: Choice School Showcase Events — The deadline to apply to a Choice School for the 2022-2023 school year is December 9.

November 9: Aldine ISD and Lone Star College are presenting an in-person event to help students complete their dual credit applications. Students will need to know their social security numbers. Click here for details and how to sign up for one of three different time slots.

November 13: Teacher Job Fair will occur at Davis High School (12525 Ella Blvd. • Houston, TX 77067), from 9 to 11:00 a.m. Click here for more information.

OBSERVATIONS

November

- Picture Book Month
- National Scholarship Month
- GentX Month

November 8-12: School Psychology Awareness Week; theme "Let's Get in Gear"

November 8-14: Children's Book Week

November 11: Veterans' Day

November 12: Wellness Day — Theme is Fuel Up With Dairy

November 15-19: American Education Week & Generation Texas Week

November 17: National Education Support Professionals Day

November 18: National Parental Involvement Day

December

December 2: Special Education Day

December 6-12: Computer Science Education Week

December 15: Early Signing Day (Student-Athletes)

REMINDERS

Aldine's Family and Community Engagement Department has launched the Family and Community University and aims to provide knowledge and resources to empower families to support students academically, socially, and emotionally. All programming is free and open to all Aldine families. Learn more and register today.

The state requires high school seniors to apply for financial aid to graduate. The FAFSA application opened on October 1.

Aldine ISD's top priorities continue to be the safety and academic success of all students. We will post all information related to our operations along with any updates at [www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts](http://www.aldineisd.org/healthalerts).

Please stay connected by visiting the District News and District Podcast pages to stay up to date on all the wonderful things happening in our district. You can also connect with us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram.



Victory Early College HS Students  
Earn College Board Academic Honors



These students excelled in College Board assessments and schoolwork to earn awards, which colleges use to identify academically competitive underrepresented students.

Several Victory Early College High School students have earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs. These National Recognition Programs grant underrepresented students academic honors that can be included on college and scholarship applications and connect students with universities across the country, helping them connect to colleges and stand out during the admissions process.

Each year, students who take the PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, or AP Exams and are African American or Black, Hispanic American or Latinx, Indigenous, or attend school in a rural area or small town may be invited to apply for academic recognition as part of the College Board National Recognition Programs.

The College Board National Recognition Programs grant students academic honors that can be included on college and scholarship applications. Colleges use these honors to identify students from underrepresented groups who have excelled on their PSAT/NMSQT, PSAT 10, or AP Exams and in their classrooms.

- Victory ECHS Students Earning National Recognition
- Laila Adams
  - Andrea Cruz
  - Graciela de la Cuesta
  - Nashaly Díaz
  - Keilly Irlas Flores
  - Mayowa Ogunbowale
  - Jonathan Ortega
  - Yoselyn Owolabi

Students interested in National Recognition Programs should sign up for the College Board Student Search Service®. This program connects students with universities and scholarship programs across the country. Universities and scholarship programs use Student Search to find students awarded recognition.

Eligibility

College Board will contact students deemed eligible for recognition. Here is a summary of the eligibility criteria used to determine our National Recognition recipients:

Juniors

Assessment Criteria — Students must meet one of the following requirements:

Take the PSAT 10 in the spring of their sophomore year and score in the top 10% by state

Take the PSAT/NMSQT in the fall of their junior year and score in the top 10% by state

Earn a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP exams by their junior year (9th and 10th grade AP scores are considered)

GPA Criteria: Students must have a 3.5 GPA or higher

Program Criteria: Students who identify as African American or Black, Hispanic American or Latinx, Indigenous, or attend school in a rural or small town

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Earn a score of 3 or higher on two or more AP exams by their sophomore year (9th grade AP scores are considered)

GPA Criteria: Students must have a 3.5 GPA or higher

Program Criteria: Students who identify as African American or Black, Hispanic American or Latinx, Indigenous, or attend school in a rural or small town

For more information, visit the College Board National Recognition Programs website.

**HIGH MEADOWS LIBRARY NEWS**

**By Jennifer Nandlal Sr Adult Program Specialist**

**LIBRARY CAPACITY INCREASED:**  
The High Meadows has had an increase in capacity to 50%. Programming is still virtual, but please check back with us occasionally for any changes.

**THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY HOURS:**  
During the Thanksgiving holiday, the High Meadows Library will open from 10am to 5pm on November 24th and will remain closed throughout the weekend. We will reopen on Monday, November 29th at 10am.

**ANOWRIMO:**  
Every November writers across the world take part in the National (Na) Novel (No)Writing (Wri) Month (Mo) challenge to write a complete 50,000-word novel in 30 days. That's 1,670 words a day. Join Camp NaNoWriMo virtually (Tuesdays & Thursdays) in November for tips, writing prompts, and inspiration to help turn your great idea into a novel. You can find past and current events on our Facebook page by visiting [www.facebook.com/highmeadowslibrary](http://www.facebook.com/highmeadowslibrary)

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Sundays: Closed



## SPORTS PAGE

## GENERALS WIN 13TH STRAIGHT CROSS COUNTRY DISTRICT TITLE



Pictured are the MacArthur High Generals cross country team members that won its 13th straight district title with a first-place finish at the District 14-6A Cross Country Meet held Oct. 14 at Lone Star College-North Harris. Assistant coach Patrick James left, and head coach Kelly Silha, seated at right, are pictured with the team.

The MacArthur High School Generals captured their 13th straight district cross country title with a first-place finish at the District 14-6A Cross Country Meet, held Oct. 14 at Lone Star College-North Harris.

Under the direction of head coach Kelly Silha and assistant coach Patrick James, the team had four runners finish in the top 10 to ease to another league title.

With the win, the Generals will advance to the Region II Cross Country Meet, slated for Monday, Oct. 25, in Grand Prairie.

The Nimitz High boy's team, under the direction of head coach Dennis Brazy, finished second at the district meet and also qualified for regionals.

MacArthur High finished in second place in the girls' division, and Aldine High finished in third place. Both teams will also advance to the regional meet.

The Generals consist of Jay Hernandez Laboy, Emiliano Flores, Giovanni Silva, Eduardo Espinoza, Alejandro Manriquez, Omar Moreno and Rene Vela.

The Cougars consist of Byron Doyle, Jonathan Doyle, Cruz Alva-

## Nimitz Falls to College Park in Bi-District Play-off 42-0



The Nimitz Cougars faced College Park in the bi-district of the Class 6A Division II football playoffs.

Under the direction of head coach Richard Slater, the Cougars finished 4-3 in District 14-6A play to qualify for the playoffs.

The game was played on Thursday, Nov. 11, at 7 p.m. at Woodforest Bank Stadium. The final score was College Park 42, Nimitz 0.

rez, Omar Armendariz, Moises Rodriguez, Alonso Salinas, and Emerson Salinas.

The Mustangs consist of Edward Mota, Daniel Martinez, Anthony Reyes, Manuel Leos, Joan Jalomo, Watson Jeremiah and Said Escobar.

The Lady Generals consist of Maria Gonzalez, Keren Huerta, Jose-lin Gonzalez, Samantha Perez, Juliet Vega, Lorena Juarez Yanez and Jocelyn Cornejo.

The Lady Mustangs consist of Elda Zuniga Villa, Rebecca Cervantes, Tatiana Rodriguez, Damaris Aguilar, Amy Hernandez and Joselyn Al-faro.

The top 10 individual runners also advance to regionals. Edward Mota of Aldine High advanced to regionals with a fourth-place overall finish in the boy's division. Erica Sanchez of Nimitz High advanced to regionals in the girl's division with a fourth-place overall finish.

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## Texans return from bye week with trip to Nashville: Michigan State looks to pull off upset against Ohio State

Colts also have a tough road test when they face off against the Buffalo Bills. Two weeks ago the Bills were shocked themselves when they suffered a 9-6 loss at Jacksonville in one of the ugliest games of the season. Quarterback Josh Allen had an awful day and he needs to play better because the New England Patriots are bearing down on the Bills in the AFC East race.

The Cowboys, who also had a bad day two Sundays ago with a 30-16 home loss to Denver, visit Kansas City to take on a struggling Patrick Mahomes and the Chiefs.

In college action, many eyes will be on the Big 10 as No. 8-ranked Michigan State visits No. 6-ranked Ohio State in a big game for both teams. SMU will visit No. 2-ranked Cincinnati, while Arkansas will try to surprise No. 3-ranked Alabama. Two weeks ago, the Crimson Tide struggled at home against an LSU team that is going nowhere and is searching for a new head coach. Nick Saban's team pulled out a 20-14 win, but they did not look like a dominant team and struggled with the running game.

Before we take a look at those games and a host of others, let's review last week's record. After two weeks of double-digit wins, I came back down to earth a bit with an 8-4 week. Not bad, but not great. That brought the season record to 74-41 (64%).

Now, onto this weekend's game.

## NCAA

**Michigan State at Ohio State:** The Spartans have been one of the surprise teams of the 2021 season, but two weeks ago they suffered their first loss of the season with a 40-29 setback at Purdue. This week they face a must sterner test when they face the high-scoring Buckeyes in Columbus. MSU needs a big game on the ground from star running back Kenneth Walker III (1,340 yards, 15 TDs) to chew up clock and keep the OSU offense off the field. Quarterback Payton Thorne (2,173 yards, 17 TDs) will need to make some plays downfield. Making plays in the passing game is not a problem for Buckeyes QB C.J. Stroud (2,675 yards, 25



TDs). He has a host of talented wide outs in Jaxon Smith-Njigba (50 receptions, 888 yards, 4 TDs), Garrett Wilson (43 receptions, 687 yards, 6 TDs) and Chris Olave (42 receptions, 623 yards, 10 TDs). OSU can also get it done on the ground with freshman running back Treyvon Henderson (937 yards, 12 TDs). MSU should be able to move the ball on an average Buckeye defense, but OSU's offense will be the difference maker in this one. My pick, Ohio State 36, Michigan State 30

**SMU at Cincinnati:** Cincinnati needs a big win over a good team in order to move up in the College Football Playoff (CFP) rankings. They should be 10-0 when the Ponies come calling on Saturday. Look for Cinci to get a big day from QB Desmond Ritter (2,121 passing yards, 20 TDs/214 rushing yards, 4 TDS), running back Jerome Ford (884 yards, 15 TDs) and wide receiver Alec Price (34 receptions, 603 yards, 4 TDs). SMU can light it up as well behind QB Tanner Mordecai (2,887 yards, 34 TDs) and wide receiver Danny Gray (47 receptions, 780 yards, 9 TDs). Look for the Bearcats to put it all together on Saturday against the Mustangs. My pick, Cincinnati 43, SMU 26

**Wake Forest at Clemson:** The Demon Deacons saw their undefeated season come to an end two weeks ago when they fell at North Carolina 58-55. The 13<sup>th</sup> ranked team in the country will look to get back on track against a Clemson team that has struggled for most of the season. Wake Forest can light it up on offense behind quarterback Sam Hartman (2,867 yards, 27 TDs), and wide receivers Jaquarri Roberson (50 receptions, 848 yards, 8 TDs) and A.T. Perry (42 receptions, 845 yards, 10 TDS). While their offense is explosive, their defense is more like Swiss cheese. It has a lot of holes. But the Clemson offense hasn't been exactly electric this year. QB

D.J. Uiagelele (1,511 yards, 7 TDs) has struggled this year. The Tigers are decent on defense, but look for Wake to have too much offensive firepower as their magical season continues. My pick, Wake Forest 36, Clemson 30

**Arkansas at Alabama:** This has been a strange season for Saban's team. While they have lost just one game, they haven't dominated teams like they did in the past. With the season winding down, it's time for the Tide to get rolling. In their tight win over LSU two weeks ago, the offense had trouble running the ball. Look for Saban to try and get running back Brian Robinson, Jr. (724 yards, 12 TDs) rolling early. That should set up the passing game for QB Bryce Young (2,755 yards, 28 TDs) and wide out Jameson Williams (45 receptions, 870 yards, 7 TDs) and John Metchie III (61 receptions, 674 yards, 6 TDs). The Hogs can run it very well with quarterback KJ Jefferson (1,848 passing yards, 16 TDS/433 rushing yards, 5 TDs) and running back Treylon Smith (476 yards, 4 TDS). Look for the 'Bama defense to tighten things up as they look to make a late move and secure the SEC West in a week with a win over Auburn. My pick, Alabama 36, Arkansas 15

## NFL

**New England at Atlanta:** An interesting one for the Thursday Night Football crew. Don't look now, but Bill Belichick's team is starting to put things together on both sides of the ball, and they are looking for a legitimate playoff contender. Rookie QB Mac Jones (2,135 yards, 10 TDs) is doing a good job of managing games and the running game is getting things done led by Damien Harris (547 yards, 7 TDs). The defense has been improving week-by-week and coming up with key turnovers and even producing points of their own. The Falcons have had their

moments as well and QB Matt Ryan (2,157 yards, 15 TDs) has been keeping them in games. Both teams need a win here to remain in the playoff hunt in their respective conferences. Something tells me Belichick will out fox rookie head coach Arthur Smith on Thursday night. My pick, New England 24, Atlanta 20

**Houston at Tennessee:** This should be an easy one for Ryan Tannehill (2,145 yards, 11 TDs) and wide receiver A.J. Brown (40 receptions, 551 yards, 3 TDs) and a ball-hawking Titans defense. The Tennessee defense played well against the Rams and produced a pick six en route to the big road win. Look for that unit to dominate the turnover-prone Texans who have big time issues in the offensive line. This one could be over at the half. My pick, Tennessee 34, Houston 13

**Green Bay at Minnesota:** Even though the Vikings are struggling this season, this is always a difficult game for the Packers. They have historically struggled at Minnesota and an upset by the Vikings could make their season. GB QB Aaron Rodgers (1,894 yards, 17 TDs) should be back for this game after missing the loss at Kansas City two weeks ago because he tested positive for COVID 19, and fibbing that he had been vaccinated. The Packers need to get running back Aaron Jones (516 yards, 3 TDs) going to set up Rodgers and the passing game led by wide receiver Davante Adams (58 receptions, 786 yards, 3 TDs). The Vikings can also move it through the air with QB Kirk Cousins (2,140 yards, 16 TDS) and productive wide receivers Justin Jefferson (46 receptions, 632 yards, 4 TDs) and Adam Thielen (45 receptions, 477 yards, 7 TDs). Minnesota could also use a big day on the ground from Dalvin Cook. Over the last few years, the Packers have always seemed to respond when their backs are up against the wall. It says that trend continues on Sunday. My pick, Green Bay 31, Minnesota 27

**Indianapolis at Buffalo:** The Colts are starting to round into form, but they face a tough task playing a Buffalo team that needs to get things going. Two weeks ago, the Colts erupted for 45 points as QB Carson Wentz (2,198 yards,

17 TDs) tossed three TD passes in the win over the Jets. Running back Jonathan Taylor (821 yards, 8 TDs) is getting hot and that could be bad news for the Bills who were shocked two weeks ago in Jacksonville (losing 9-6). Buffalo needs quarterback Josh Allen (2,236 yards, 17 TDs/319 rushing yards, 3 TDs) to get hot, but the problem with the Bills offense is a lack of a running game. Indy has a solid front seven and should be able to shutdown the anemic Buffalo run game and turn its sites on Allen. Look for Allen to bounce back and make some big plays down field to wide outs Stefon Diggs (48 receptions, 588 yards, 3 TDs), Emanuel Sanders and Cole Beasley. Bills win a close one. My pick, Buffalo 26, Indianapolis 24

**Cincinnati at Las Vegas:** This is an important game for both teams' playoff hopes. Two weeks ago, the Bengals dropped their second straight game when the Browns marched into the Queen City and trounced them 41-17. QB Joe Burrow (2,497 yards, 20 TDs) threw two picks and no touchdowns in that game. Look for him to bounce back and rely more on running back Joe Mixon (636 yards, 7 TDs) in this one. Don't be surprised if Burrow and rookie WR Ja'Marr Chase (44 receptions, 835 yards, 7 TDs) hook up on a long TD pass in this one. Two weeks ago, the Raiders lost to a two-win Giants team in New Jersey. QB Derek Carr (2,565 yards, 13 TDs) needs a bounce back game. Something tells me the Bengals get back on track on Sunday in the City of Lost Wages. My pick, Cincinnati 31, Las Vegas 29

**Dallas at Kansas City:** Speaking of disappointments, the Cowboys were certainly that two weeks ago in their 30-16 home loss to the Broncos. This week, they face a KC team that is still looking to get on track. QB Patrick Mahomes (2,534 yards, 20 TDS/10 interceptions) has been way too inconsistent this year. Even talented wide receiver Tyreek Hill (68 receptions, 772 yards, 6 TDs) and tight end Travis Kelce (54 receptions, 628 yards, 5 TDs) have both had a case of the drops this year. The Dallas defense may have been exposed by the Broncos, and that should be good news for Chief fans. Dak Prescott

(2,045 yards, 18 TDs) and Ezekiel Elliott (622 yards, 5 TDs) need bounce back games this week. The KC defense is no prize either, so look for Dallas to give them a steady dose of Elliott to soften things up for Prescott to hit strikes down field to CeeDee Lamb (41 receptions, 632 yards, 4 TDs) and Amari Cooper (40 receptions, 532 yards, 5 TDs). Something tells me the Cowboys bounce back with a statement game on Sunday. My pick, Dallas 33, Kansas City 31

**Pittsburgh at Los Angeles Chargers:** This is an important game for both teams as the Steelers look to remain in the AFC North race, and the Chargers look to keep pace in the AFC West. After losing three of their first four games, the Steelers won five straight following their 29-27 win two weeks ago against the Bears. QB Ben Roethlisberger (1,986 yards, 10 TDS) isn't throwing deep, but counting on rookie running back Najee Harris (541 yards, 6 total TDs) to make plays on the ground and in the passing game. Big Ben needs to start airing it out and he might get that chance Sunday night against a suspect LA secondary. LA QB Justin Herbert (2,350 yards, 18 TDs) will also look to running back Austin Ekeler (479 yards, 5 TDs) and wide receivers Keenan Allen (57 receptions, 600 yards, 2 TDs) and Mike Williams (37 receptions, 575 yards, 6 TDs) to make plays against a solid Steelers defense. My pick, Los Angeles Chargers 26, Pittsburgh 23

**New York Giants at Tampa Bay:** Week 11 concludes on Monday Night Football with what should be an easy win for Tom Brady (2,650 yards, 25 TDs) and the Bucs. Sure, the Giants and QB Daniel Jones (2,059 yards, 8 TDs/5 picks) upset the Raiders two weeks ago, but this time they are playing the defending Super Bowl champs. Look for Brady to attack a porous NY secondary with strikes to Chris Godwin (50 receptions, 660 yards, 4 TDs), Mike Evans (39 receptions, 544 yards, 8 TDs) and Antonio Brown (29 receptions, 418 yards, 4 TDs). Look for a big night from Brady as he shines on the national spotlight during Thanksgiving week. My pick, Tampa Bay 38, New York Giants 16



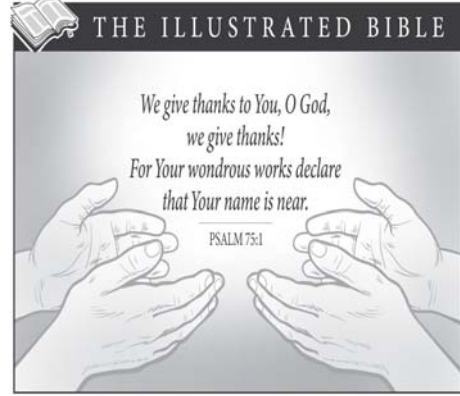
# CHURCH PAGE

## BIBLE TRIVIA

by Wilson Casey —

- Who wrote in Ephesians 5:20, "Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ"? Matthew, Peter, Paul, Jude
- From Psalms 107:1 and 118:1, why should we give thanks to the Lord, because He is ...? Evermore, Good, Watching, Hopeful
- Which book of the Bible (KJV) mentions the word "thanksgiving" the most times, at eight? Genesis,

- Nehemiah, Psalms, Isaiah
- In 2 Timothy 3:1-2, what human qualities does Paul list as being signs of the last days? Adulterers, Sun worshipers, Renegades, Unthankful people
  - In Leviticus 22, a sacrifice of thanksgiving is most meaningful when it is ...? Sincere, Often, At your own will, Extravagant
  - Who were commended in 1 Chronicles 16:4 to thank God? Levites, Ammonites, Benjaminites, Danites
- ANSWERS: 1) Paul; 2) Good; 3) Psalms; 4) Unthankful people; 5) At your own will; 6) Levites



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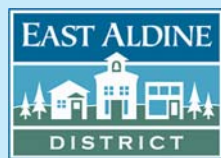
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## East Aldine District COMMUNITY NEWS

### When it comes to East Aldine seniors, "Everyone Counts"

About three dozen senior citizens recently gathered for Grandparents' Day to cap off their weekly summer camp activities sponsored by the East Aldine Management District and BakerRipley.

They shared box lunches and snow cones, got health advice from various vendors and swapped stories about their crazy camp activities led by Sory Mingo, a vivacious human services specialist from the Dominican Republic and founder of the non-profit Everyone-Counts.

Mingo leads the twice weekly "summer camps" for eight weeks, with help from BakerRipley staff and volunteers. The activities serve the elderly residents of the assisted living apartments Pilgrim Place I and Pilgrim Place II near MacArthur High School.

Mingo's programs provide healthy meals and "entertaining but educational activities" for the fiercely independent seniors.

Only one grandmother brought her two grandsons to the event, while other seniors enjoyed sandwiches and snow cones, as well as \$10 gift cards from Walmart.

"These seniors live by themselves, even if they have family close by. They like living by themselves and being independent," Mingo said. "But they do want to participate in activities that are entertaining or educational." "Although family is important to them, because many of them do have family nearby, they prefer being independent," Mingo said.

The U.S. Census Bureau, in a report issued on Grandparents' Day, noted that the percentage of grandparents living with their grandchildren has dropped in recent years. In 2000, more than 9 percent of Hispanic grandparents lived with their grandchildren, but that has dropped to about 7 percent.

The Census Bureau also noted that there has been a drop in grandparents who are their grandchildren's primary caregivers across several ethnic groups, including Hispanics.

There has, however,



SORY MINGO



been an increase in younger grandparents raising grandchildren in the United States. Two key events contributed to the increasing numbers of younger grandparents stepping in to care for their grandchildren. The crack epidemic of the 1980s and the economic recession of 2007-2009 forced more grandparents (many in their mid-to late 30s) to take on child-rearing duties. According to the Census Bureau, more than 40 percent of children being raised by a younger grandparent are there because of at least one parent's substance abuse. More recently, the Census Bureau's American Community Survey and the Centers for Disease Control found that the highest percentage of grandparents age 30 and over who are raising grandchildren are in Southern states with the highest percentage of opioid use.



According to the non-profit Texas Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, there are 314,000 Texas grandparents raising their grandchildren. According to TxGRG, 67.4 percent (211,617) of those grandparents are under age 60. About half of those grandparents do not have the grandchildren's parents living with them.

Mingo, who holds an associate's degree in human services, said she learned the hard way that her client seniors want to be around their friends in the same age group.

"We tried having family bingo, but the seniors didn't really enjoy it," she said with a laugh. "The younger people were going too fast."

During June and July, the summer camp activities included a "safari" day, a "casino" day, a "beach" day and an "arts" day, in addition to a special Fourth of July party. The senior participants clearly enjoyed those activities, dressing in costumes befitting each special day.

Mingo recognizes the important role seniors have played in the East Aldine community, raising families and working hard to pass along cultural traditions.

"I believe this is the first summer camp for seniors in Texas," Mingo said. "I am so happy to be part of this project, the creator of this program. I am thankful that God has placed this passion for the elderly on my heart."

(When summer ends, seniors can still find instructional and recreational services, and more, nearby at facilities such as the Harris County Precinct One's Hardy Senior Center).

"(Seniors) deserve inclusion in our community. I am incredibly grateful the East Aldine Management District has supported us," Mingo said. "They are so important in our community, and the senior population is getting bigger. And it's going to get bigger each year."

Mingo is right.

According to the U.S. Census Bureau, 8.6 percent of East Aldine residents are over age 65. However, the most recent census data shows that 8.3 percent of East Aldine residents are between the ages of 55 and 64. And the next age group will soon be receiving mail from the American Association of Retired People, since 45-year to 54-year olds make up 10.75 percent of East Aldine's population.

— By Anne Marie Kilday

## Lone Star College-North Harris to host adjunct faculty job fair

HOUSTON (Nov. 9, 2021) — Passionate educators looking to teach during the Spring 2022 semester are encouraged to attend the Adjunct Job Fair at Lone Star College-North Harris.

The job fair will take place Saturday, Nov. 20, from 10 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in the LSC-North Harris Student Services Building, Room 208. Anyone interested in attending must register for the event by visiting [https://lonestarkelw.formstack.com/forms/adjunct\\_job\\_fai](https://lonestarkelw.formstack.com/forms/adjunct_job_fai) by Monday, Nov. 15.

Attendees will have the opportunity to meet with representatives from multiple divisions looking to hire instructors for more than 20 subjects, including business, electrical technology, history, and more.

"Qualified adjunct faculty are essential complements to our full-time faculty and success of our students," said Dr. Michael Burns, Interim Vice President of Instruction at LSC-North Harris. "The options to teach online or face-to-face, as well as morning, noon, night, and week-

end courses, provides flexible scheduling for our adjunct faculty."

The standard adjunct rate is \$45.75 per contact hour or \$2,196 for a standard course. Those interested can view a list of available subjects with openings when registering for the event.

Lone Star College offers high-quality, low-cost academic transfer and career training education to 93,000+ students each semester. LSC is training tomorrow's workforce today and redefining the community college experience to support student success. Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., serves as chancellor of LSC, the largest institution of higher education in the Houston area and has been named a 2021 Great Colleges to Work For® institution by the Chronicle of Higher Education and ranked 35th in Texas in the Forbes 'America's Best Employers By State' list. LSC consists of seven colleges, seven centers, eight Workforce Centers of Excellence, Lone Star Corporate College and LSC-Online. To learn more, visit [LoneStar.edu](http://LoneStar.edu).

## Lone Star College receives Accreditation for Nursing program

Houston (Oct. 25, 2021) — The Lone Star College Bachelor of Science in Nursing (BSN) program has been approved by the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing (ACEN). The accreditation process examined the LSC RN to BSN program from developing and teaching its curriculum to its working with nursing students.

"Lone Star College provided the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing with data to determine whether our program meets their strict standards," said Stephen C. Head, Ph.D., LSC chancellor. "They also looked at student progress in completing degrees and the percentage of students who finish."

LSC recently held its first BSN graduation ceremony, conferring 24 bachelor of nursing degrees. "As nurses, we are in an ever-changing health care arena," said Billy Ledesma, LSC BSN graduate who spoke at the graduation and pinning ceremony. "Being a nurse shapes our professional identity. Our way of thinking about nursing has and continues to evolve and mature with our

education and career."

Accreditation with ACEN is voluntary but offers students many advantages including additional financial aid opportunities, ease of credit hour transfer and greater access to graduate programs.

"This accreditation ensures that instructors are using appropriate teaching methods, that courses have the proper content and that Lone Star College is meeting the needs of nursing students," said Head.

LSC was approved by the state of Texas and the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to offer the BSN degree to help address the critical shortage of nurses in the greater Houston region. The Texas Legislature also approved LSC to offer a Bachelor of Applied Technology in Cybersecurity degree and a Bachelor of Applied Science in Energy, Manufacturing and Trades Management degree.

Visit [LoneStar.edu/Nursing](http://LoneStar.edu/Nursing) to learn more about all the LSC nursing programs that lead toward an exciting and in-demand career.

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